

Application No.: 09/884,759

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. The specification has been amended to reference application number 08/240,798. The abstract of the disclosure has been amended to reduce its length to less than 150 words. A Consent of Assignee; Statement of Non-Assignment is being sent with this response. Applicants will surrender the original patent when this application is allowed. Claim 1-8 have been allowed. Claims 16, 17, 23 and 24 were found to have allowable subject matter.

Claims 9-14 have been canceled. Claim 15 has been amended to include the limitation of Claim 16. Claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form. Claim 22 has been amended to include the limitation of Claim 23. Claim 23 has been canceled. Claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form. All remaining claims are believed to depend from allowable claims and to be allowable.

Consideration of this application and allowance thereof are earnestly solicited. In the event the Examiner considers a personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned Attorney for Applicants, Jeannette Walder.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 19, 2004

Enc: Consent of Assignee; Statement of Non-Assignment